OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

National Homeland Security Research Center

TECHNICAL BRIEF

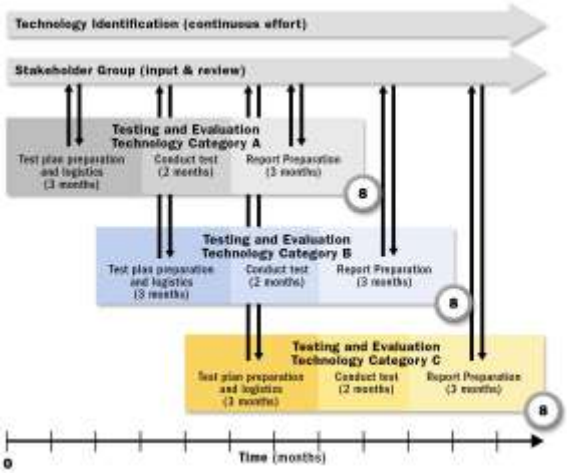
Technology Testing and Evaluation Program

Background

EPA's National Homeland Security Research Center (NHSRC), headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio, has developed the Technology Testing and Evaluation Program (TTEP) in an effort to provide reliable information regarding the performance of homeland security related technologies. TTEP is an outgrowth of EPA's successful and internationally recognized Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) Program.

The Process

TTEP rigorously tests technologies against a wide range of performance characteristics, requirements, or specifications. The primary focus is testing commercially available technologies. The technology categories of interest include detection, monitoring, treatment, decontamination, computer modeling, and design tools for use by those responsible for protecting water infrastructure and decontaminating structures and the outdoor environment.



The TTEP process includes the use of chemical and biological contaminants and conducts testing at federal facilities and field locations as appropriate. ETV test plans are often used after being modified to meet homeland security requirements. All testing is conducted following strict quality assurance (QA) procedures that are described in the test plan. The data are evaluated and the performance results are included in individual summary reports and in side-by-side comparisons. These reports are available at http://www.epa.gov/nhsrc/. Stakeholder involvement is important to the success of the program. Stakeholders are engaged in identifying and selecting technologies for testing and in developing test plans.

Benefits

TTEP provides high quality information that is useful to decision makers in purchasing or applying the tested technologies. It provides potential users with unbiased, third-party information that can supplement vendor-provided information. Stakeholder involvement insures that user needs and perspectives are incorporated into the test design so that useful performance information is produced for each of the tested technologies.

Technical Contact: Eric Koglin (702) 798-2332, koglin.eric@epa.gov

Kathy Nickel (513) 569-7955, nickel.kathy@epa.gov

March 3, 2005
EPA/600/S-06/029